



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 645

PRINTER'S NO. 1789

PRIME SPONSOR: Hughes

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 645 amends Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to provide for a ten-year limitation for acquiring vacant land for gardens in cities of the first class.

ANALYSIS:

This legislation allows for the possessor of a privately owned vacant lot to acquire the title if:

- the possessor can show they have had possession of the lot for not less than 10 years;
- they have maintained the land as a garden for not less than five years;
- they have demonstrated the capacity to maintain the space;
- they have a plan for paying all required taxes, unless exempt;
- the land does not exceed an area of one-half acre; and
- the land shall remain a garden or community garden for not less than five years from the date of acquisition.

A possessor who attempts to acquire land under this section must commence a quiet title action and provide notice as required under Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) Section 5527.1 (C)(2), (3) and (D).

This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill would have no impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Chris Fetterman, Special Advisor for Economic Development
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: July 1, 2024

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.